

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 MC-02 ACDA-07 /069 W

-----120243Z 004479 /63

O 120020Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2254

INFORUEKJCS/SEC DEF WASH DC OPS IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR, BAIHINGEN, GER/ECJ4-7 OPS IMMEDIATE

DIA WASH DC//RCM-2// IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 KINSHASA 2184

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, CG, US

SUBJECT: ZAIRIAN REQUESTS FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE (OPERATION SHABA)

REF: A. STATE 053979 (NOTAL) B. KIN 2090 :. STATE 054034

1. RESPONSES KEYED TO QUESTIONS POSED REF A.

2. RELEVANCE OF REHABILITATION OF MACCHI AIRCRAFT.

A. FOLLOWING ADVANTAGES ACCRUE WITH MACCHI AIRCRAFT.

1. MORE FAZA TRAINED PILOTS IN MACCHI THAN MIRAGE.

MORE FLIGHT EXPERIENCE.

2. MORE FAZA EXPERTISE WITH MACCHI MAINTENANCE.

MACCHI LESS SOPHISTICATED.

3. MUNITIONS ARE AVAILABLE.

4. SHORT FIELD CAPABILITY.

5. LONG-TERM BENEFIT IS THAT MACCHI (AFTER HOSTILITIES)

COULD SERVE AS BADLY NEEDED INTERMEDIATE JET

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TRAINING AIRCRAFT.

B. COST FIGURES CITED IN REFTEL B TO BEST OUR KNOWLEDGE DID NOT INCLUDE TRANSPORTATION COSTS. AS SUGGESTED IN REFTEL C TRANSPORTATION BY USG WOULD BE POSITIVE ASSIST AT THIS TIME.

C. MACCHI REP INFORMED ZAMISH THAT MACCHI TEAM COULD ARRIVE ZAIRE WITHIN 7-10 DAYS. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF DEVELOPING SITUATION SUGGEST DEMARCHES BE MADE TO SHORTEN THIS TIME FRAME.

3. ZAIRIAN NEEDS. CZAMISH HAS BEEN IN CONTINUING DISCUSSION RE SUBJECT AND MISSION HAS JUST RECEIVED MOBUTU/BABIA FINALIZED REQUEST. TRANSLATION OF GOZ NOTE FOLLOWS.

QUOTE

1. FROM DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO ZAMISH. SUBJECT: NEEDS FOR OPERATION SHABA. A DETAILED STUDY MADE DDN OF THE SHABA SITUATION REVEALS

- A. FIVE INFANTRY BNS ARE REQUIRED TO OPERATE INDEPENDENTLY IN A VAST THEATER OF OPERATIONS AND AT A GREAT DISTANCE FROM KINSHASA (PLUS OR MINUS 2,000KM).
- B. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES DURATION OF OPERATION WILL BE APPROXIMATELY TWO MONTHS.

2. IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONSIDERATIONS ENUMERATED ABOVE, OUR COUNTRY REQUESTS ASSISTANCE FROM THE USG IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS AND IN THE FOLLOWING PRIORITIES.

A/ AIR SUPPORT

- 1. IMMEDIATELY - TROOP TRANSPORT (1500 MEN) FROM KINSHASA TO SHABA.
- 2. MOVE LOGISTICAL SUPPORT CLASSES I. II. (SIC) III AND V (COMBAT RATIONS, MUNITIONS, MEDICAL SUPPLIES, SPARE PARTS) FROM KINSHASA TO SHABA
- 3. RECONNAISSANCE AND CGLOSE AIR SUPPORT MISSIONS FOR GROUND TROOPS.
- B. TROOP MOVEMENT. GROUND TROOP MOVEMENT TO FORWARD OPERATIONAL AREA.
- C. ESTABLISH MEDIUM TO LONG-RANGE COMMUNICATIONS NETS TO GROUND FORCE UNITS (NOTE: FOREGOING ARE GOZ INTERNAL PRI-CONFIDENTIAL

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ORITIES).

D. PROVISION OF ASSORTED MATERIAL. (953: FOLLOWING IS WHAT IS REQUESTED FROM USG):

(1) IMMEDIATE - INDIVIDUAL EQUIPMENT.

- A. LBE - FATIGUES, BOOTS STEEL HELMETS SOCKS, ETCM
- B. COMBAT RATIONS FOR SEVEN DAYS.
- C. POL FOR SEVEN DAYS.
- D. MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR SEVEN DAYS.
- E. COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT (AN/GRC 106) WITH BATTERIES FOR SEVEN DAYS.
- F. WATER PURIFICATION TABLETS.

(2) FOLLOW-ON EQUIPMENT

- A. AMMUNITION AS REQUIRED.
- B. RATIONS AS REQUIRED
- C. POL AS REQUIRED
- D. RADIO BATTERIES AS REQUIRED
- E. MEDICAL SUPPLIES AS REQUIRED

(3) IT IS ALSO NECESSARY FOR EFFECTIVE SUPPORT OF THIS OPERATION TO CONSIDER.

A. RAPID DELIVERY OF CRITICAL SPARE PARTS FOR C130
AIRCRAFT.
B. EARLY DELIVERY TO KINSHASA OF THE C130 NOW
SCHEDULED FOR MAY 1977. CRITICAL SPARE PARTS FOR C130'S
MENTIONED ABOVE TO BE PLACED ABOARD. DELIVERY TO KINSHASA TO
BE ACCOMPLISHED BY USG CREW.
C. DELIVERY OF SIX 500-GALLON CAPACITY FUEL BLADDERS
IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH FORWARD AREA REFUEL POINTS
FOR GROUND FORCES THUS PERMITTING MAINTENANCE OF
CONTACT WITH ENEMY.
D. EARLY DELIVERY OF PARACHUTES (FMS CASE UCS) FOR
AIRBORNE OPERATIONS. (NOTE: END REQUEST FOR US
ASSISTANCE).
FOR THE STATE COMMISSIONER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE (READ
MOBUTU) SIGNED BABIA ZONGBI MALOBIA MAJOR GENERAL
DIRECTOR GENERAL
END QUOTE
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4. MISSION EVALUATION OF ZAIRIAN ANALYSIS: ZAIRIAN REQUEST APPEARS
REASONABLE AND RATIONAL. ALTHOUGH PARAGRAPH TWO OF GOZ NOTE INDI-
CATES CONSIDERATIONS FOR USG ASSISTANCE, THE SENSE APPEARS TO US
TO BE PRIORITIES OF ACTIONS TO BE PERFORMED BY FAZ. ZAMISH
HAS SUGGESTED THAT THE DDN GIVE PRECISE INFORMATION ON AMMUNITION
ON HAND FORMERLY FURNISHED BY USG. DDN STAFF CURRENTLY IN
PROCESS OF ACCOMPLISHING THIS. IT WOULD APPEAR TO US THAT
REQUESTS ARE REALISTIC AND WILL ASSIST MATERIALLY IN
FURTHERANCE OF GOZ OPERATIONS.

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2255

INFO SEC DEF WASH DC IMMEDIATE
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AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 KINSHASA 2184

5. ALLIED EFFORTS.

A. BELGIAN - GOZ LIST OF EQUIPMENT REQUESTED OF BELGIANS SENT SEPTTEL. RETIRED BELGIAN OFFICER (COL. POWIS) ASSIGNED ZAIRIAN PRESIDENCY LEFT LAST NIGHT WITH REQUEST TO GOB. LOCAL BELGIAN MILITARY OFFICIALS, WHILE AWARE OF POWIS' DEPARTURE, NOT AWARE OF DETAILED CONTENTS OF LIST. GOB REACTION SENT SEPTTEL.

B. FRENCH - GOZ REQUEST TO FRENCH INCLUDED PRIMARILY MUNITIONS FOR MIRAGES AND CREW-SERVED WEAPONS. BABIA INFORMED CZAMISH THAT AT A MEETING CONDUCTED AT 1530Z TODAY WITH CHIEF FRENCH MILITARY MISSION, DEPUTY CHIEF FRENCH MILITARY MISSION (AIR) AND MILITARY ATTACHE. FRENCH INFORMED BABIA THAT:
TOTAL TONNAGE REQUESTED IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. 120MM MORTAR - 420 TONS.
2. 81MM MORTAR - 332 TONS.
3. 90MM AMMUNITION FOR PANHARDS - NO TONNAGE GIVEN.
4. MIRAGE MUNITIONS.

FRENCH ARE PREPARED TO SHIP (10 PERCENT IMMEDIATELY BY AIR):

1. 10,000 ROUNDS 30MM CANNON
2. 40 - 1,000 POUND BOMBS.

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3. 300 - 68MM ROCKETS.

(C) ABOVE APPROXIMATES 20-25 TONS, CAN BE SHIPPED ON C-130.

(D) REMAINDER OF REQUEST (90 PERCENT) WILL BE FURNISHED BY FRENCH BY SURFACE TRANSPORTATION.

6. BABIA INDICATED TO CZAMISH THAT MOBUTU HAS REQUESTED THAT USG, BELGIAN AND FRENCH MILITARY ON THE SCENE COORDINATE SOONEST TO INSURE HARMONIZATION OF EFFORT. IN THIS CONNECTION, BABIA MENTIONED THAT HE HAD REQUESTED FRENCH TO PROVIDE NAPALM BOMBS FOR MIRAGES. FRENCH RESPONDED NOT AVAILABLE IN INVENTORY; FRENCH WILL TALK TO USG. CZAMISH POINTED OUT DISADVANTAGE OF NAPALM IF USED ON ZAIRIAN SOIL.

7. BABIA STATED TO CZAMISH THAT LISTS PROVIDED BELGIAN AND FRENCH ENVISIONED FOLLOW ON OPERATIONS IN AN ESCALATING ATMOSPHERE. BABIA CITED ANGOLA EXPERIENCE.

A. ABOVE CLARIFIES PREVIOUS SEPTTEL RE FRENCH EFFORT.

B. MISSION WILL CONTINUE TO TALK TO FRENCH AND BELGIANS. REQUEST WASHINGTON GUIDANCE RE: IS USG PREPARED TO OFFER TO TRANSPORT A SELECTED PORTION OF FRENCH/BELGIAN MUNITIONS AND EQUIPMENT,

AND ANY OTHER GUIDANCE WASHINGTON DEEMS APPROPRIATE. REQUEST THIS ASAP. FURTHER, IN VIEW OF FRENCH/BELGIAN PRECEDENT, SUGGEST RAPID AND POSITIVE USG MESSAGE WE CAN PASS TO MOBUTU.

8. POTENTIALLY USEFUL TYPES OF ASSISTANCE CONSIDERED BY MISSION, NOT DISCUSSED WITH ZAIRIANS:

- A. IMMEDIATE REPAIR OF C130 TAIL NUMBER TCB. NOSEWHEEL SECTION DAMAGED LAST AUGUST. REPAIR PARTS LISTS IS AT LOCKHEED AT ESTIMATED COST OF \$172,000.
 - B. COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT. REQUIREMENT EXISTS FOR MINIMAL ESSENTIAL TEST EQUIPMENT FOR VRC 12, GRC 106 AND PRC 77.
 - C. ON A LOAN BASIS, SELECTED MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIPMENT SUCH AS FORK LIFTS, K LOADERS FOR LOADING/OFFLOADING OPERATIONS.
 - D. A SMALL U.S. EQUIPMENT DELIVERY TEAM TO BE DISPATCHED TO ZAIRE FOR RECEIPT, CATALOGING AND INVENTORY CONTROL.
 - E. THRUPUT DISTRIBUTION OF CRITICAL SUPPLIES TO KAMINA
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BASE RATHER THAN KINSHASA/MATADI SO AS TO BE IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE TO USERS. IN THIS CONNECTION REQUEST CONSIDERATION TO BE GIVEN TO DISPATCH OF A SMALL AERIAL PORT UNIT.

9. COMMENT: I HAVE REVIEWED FOREGOING MESSAGE PREPARED BY CZAMISH AND OTHER MISSION PERSONNEL AND I CONCUR. WASHINGTON SHOULD BE AWARE THAT ZAIRIAN PRESENTATION OF ITS INTERNAL PRIORITIES AND CONSEQUENT REQUESTS FOR US ASSISTANCE IS A MUCH MORE RATIONAL EXERCISE THAN THE GOZ'S FIRST ATTEMPT -- WHICH ASKED FOR THE MOON. FINALLY, I REALIZE THAT IDEAS FOR DISPATCH OF TDY PERSONNEL TO ASSIST IN RECEIPT/INVENTORY/PROCESSING OF PROPOSED ASSISTANCE MAY RAISE EYEBROWS, BUT IN MY EXPERIENCE SUCH LOGISTICAL HELP WILL BE CRITICAL AND CAN BE FOLDED INTO ZAMISH OPERATIONS IN A WAY THAT WILL KEEP OUR SKIRTS CLEAN.

WALKER

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Message Attributes

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